## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA : 3:CR-18-0097

:

v. : (Judge Mariani)

:

**ROSS ROGGIO** : (Electronically filed)

## ROGGIO'S MOTION IN LIMINE SIDIROPOULOU STATEMENT CUSTOMS BORDER PROTECTION

AND NOW comes the Defendant, Ross Roggio, by his attorney, Gino Bartolai, Esquire, and files the following Motion in Limine, and in support thereof avers the following:

1. On March 20, 2018, Roggio was charged in an Indictment with conspiracy to commit an offense against the United States, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 371; violations of the Arms Export Control Act, Title 22, United States Code, Sections 2778(b) and (c); and the International Emergency Powers Act, Title 50, United States Code, Sections 1702 and 1705(c); smuggling goods from the United States, in violation of Title 18 United States Code Sections 554 and 2; wire fraud, in violation of Title 18, United States Code Section 1342; and money laundering, in violation of Title 18 United States Code, Sections 1956(a)(2)(A) and 2.

- 2. On March 23, 2018, Roggio appeared before Magistrate Judge Karoline Mehalchick for an initial appearance and arraignment and entered a plea of not guilty to the charges.
- 3. On February 15, 2022, Roggio was charged in a Superseding Indictment with two additional charges; Conspiracy to Commit Torture in violation of Title 18, U.S.C. Sections 2340 and 2340A (c), and Torture in violation of Title 18, U.S.C. Sections 2340, 2340(A)(a) and 2.
- 4. On February 17, 2022, Roggio was arraigned before Magistrate Judge

  Joseph F. Saporito on the Superseding Indictment and entered a plea of not guilty.
  - 5. Trial in this matter is presently scheduled for May 8, 2023.
- 6. Roggio has received material through discovery. While presently counsel is unsure as to what the Government will offer in its case-in-chief, certain matters have manifested themselves through the discovery so that counsel can identify them now and seek their exclusion at trial.
- 7. Accordingly, Roggio submits that evidence of the following nature should not be permitted at his trial;
  - A) On February 26, 2017, Christina Sidiropoulou arrived at JFK Airport and was referred for a secondary inspection by Customs Border Protection Agents. Sidiropoulou was interviewed by Customs Border Protection Agent Sara Perea and provided a verbal statement which was memorialized in a U.S. Customs and Border Protection report dated February 27, 2017.

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8. Any testimony or statement related to the Customs Border Protection

interview of Christina Sidiropoulou is inadmissible hearsay and should not be

allowed at Roggio's trial. See; Fed. R. Evid. 802

9. Roggio respectfully reserves the right to challenge any other evidence

that is irrelevant, immaterial, privileged, and/or that is otherwise prejudicial.

WHEREFORE, the Defendant, Ross Roggio, respectfully requests that this

Honorable Court should preclude the Government from offering the above type of

evidence at Roggio's trial.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 7, 2023

s/Gino Bartolai

Gino Bartolai, Esquire Attorney ID# PA 56642

238 William Street Pittston, Pennsylvania 18640 (570) 654-3572

E-mail: <u>Bartolai@ptd.net</u> Attorney for Ross Roggio

## **CERTIFICATE OF NON CONCURRENCE**

I, Gino Bartolai, Esquire, certify that on this date I contacted Todd K.

Hinkley, Assistant United States Attorney, who advised that he does not concur in the within Motion in Limine.

Date: April 7, 2023 <u>s/Gino Bartolai</u>

Gino Bartolai, Esquire

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Gino Bartolai, Esquire, do hereby certify that I electronically served, via e-mail, a copy of the foregoing **Motion in Limine**, to the following

Todd K. Hinkley, Esquire Assistant United States Attorney

and by placing the same in the United States mail, first class, postage prepaid, at Scranton, Pennsylvania, addressed to the following:

Ross Roggio

Date: April 7, 2023 s/Gino Bartolai

Gino Bartolai, Esquire